

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15

STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01

DOE-15 STRE-00 /124 W

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P 090759Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8657

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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USMTN

DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, JA

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL JAPANESE TARIFF

OFFERS IN MTN

1. YOMIURI VERNACULAR PRESS (JUNE 8) CARRIED REPORT THAT GOJ WILL REVISE OFFERS ON MORE THAN 300 OF THE 2636 (SIC) MINING AND MANUFACTURING LINE ITEMS LISTED IN THEIR JANUARY MTN OFFER. THIS REPRESENTS OVER 80 PERCENT OF THE ITEMS ON THE U.S. REQUEST LIST, IT SAID. TEN OF THESE WILL BECOME DUTY FREE. AS A RESULT, FINAL TARIFF LEVELS, INCLUDING BOTH DUTY FREE AND DUTIABLE PRODUCTS, WILL BE ABOUT 3.7 PERCENT ON A WEIGHTED AVERAGE. COMPARED TO PRESENT RATES, TOTAL REDUCTIONS OFFERED WILL BE JUST SHORT OF 50 PERCENT, THE REPORT NOTED.

2. THE REPORT SAID THAT THE NEW OFFERS WOULD INCLUDE TARIFF REDUCTIONS FOR COMPUTERS AND COLOR FILM "INTO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SINGLE DIGIT" RANGE, AND PREVIOUSLY EXCLUDED CONFECTIONS SUCH AS CHEWING GUM AND CHOCOLATES. THE GOJ, IT NOTED, HAS SEVERAL ALTERNATIVE PLANS. WHICH ONE IS USED WILL DEPEND ON THE PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONCERNED MINISTRIES ARE EXPECTED TO LEAVE FOR GENEVA JUNE 9 WITH THE NEW OFFERS. THESE WILL PROBABLY BE TABLED EARLY NEXT WEEK

THE REPORT INDICATED.

4. COMMENT: PRESS REPORTS INDICATE JAPAN IS WELL ON ITS WAY TOWARD FORMULATING FINAL MTN OFFERS, MOST OF WHICH REPRESENT SOME MODEST RELAXING OF PREVIOUS STANDS IN ALMOST EVERY AREA, MANUFACTURED AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT. HOWEVER, THE GOJ WILL AVOID DISCUSSIONS ON MAJOR CONCESSIONS AS LONG AS THE DIET REMAINS IN SESSION TO AVOID POSSIBLE POLITICAL INTERROGATORIES.

MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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